

## Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 EB-11 CU-04 AID-20 OMB-01

TRSE-00 ACDA-19 FEA-02 COME-00 INT-08 CIEP-02 SIL-01

LAB-06 HEW-08 DRC-01 /225 W  
----- 104876

R 271335Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4932

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANAA GTP

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TS

SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE MARCH 26

REF: TUNIS 1731 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY. DURING PLENARY SESSION MARCH 26, CONFERENCE ADOPTED AGENDA AS SUBMITTED BY LEAGUE SECRETARIAT AND ESTABLISHED FIVE COMMITTEES TO WORK ON AGENDA QUESTIONS. SYRIANS APPARENTLY CONTINUE TO TAKE LEAD ON VARIETY OF ISSUES, ESPECIALLY THOSE BEING DISCUSSED BY IMPORTANT POLITICAL COMMITTEE. LATTER ADOPTED THREE RECOMMENDATIONS ON SYRIA FOR CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MORNING PLENARY SESSION MARCH 2#, CONFERENCE AT REQUEST OF SYRIANS AGAIN DISCUSSED QUESTION OF PUBLIC VERSUS CLOSED MEETINGS AND REAFFIRMED MARCH 25 DECISION THAT MEETINGS SHOULD BE CLOSED. DELEGATES ADOPTED CONFERENCE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED BY LEAGUE SECRETARIAT AND AS DISCUSSED BY TUNISIAN FONMIN CHATTI IN HIS PRELS CONFERENCE LAST WEEK (TUNIS 1692). PLENARY SESSION THEN ESTABLISHED FIVE COMMITTEES TO WORK ON AGENDA QUESTIONS: POLITICAL, COMPOSED OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AND HEADS OF DELEGATIONS; ECONOMIC: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL; LEGAL; AND FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE. COMMITTEES MET MARCH 26. SUMMARIES OF THEIR WORK AS CARRIED IN LOCAL PRESS MORNING MARCH 27 FOLLOW:

A. POLITICAL (CHAIRER BY TUNISIAN FONMIN AND PRESIDENT OF LEAGUE COUNCIL CHATTI) COMMITTEE DISCUSSED (1) MILITARY AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS SINCE NOVEMBER ALGIERS SUMMIT, (2) METHODS FOR CARRYING OUT DECISIONS OF THIS SUMMIT, AND (3) WAYS TO CONSOLIDATE ARAB ACTION. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON (1) ABOVE, WITH SYRIAN REP REPORTED AS STATING THAT HIS COUNTRY IS NOT OPPOSED TO PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS ON SYRIAN FRONT OR TO AN HONORABLE PEACE, BUT THAT PEACE CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AT ANY PRICE. EGYPTIAN REP QUOTED AS SAYING THAT EGYPT MADE NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN DIFFERENT ARAB FRONTS. COMMITTEE THEN ADOPTED RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO LEAGUE COUNCIL EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN POSITION (TEXT OF RECOMMENDATIONS AS REPORTED BY TUNISIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESS SEPTEL). SINCE POLITICAL COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL BOTH COMPOSED OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, THIS RESOLUTION LIKELY TO BE ADOPTED. SEPARATE PRESS ACCOUNT BY LOCAL JOURNALIST REPORTED THAT SYRIAN (KHADDAM) HAD ALSO DISCUSSED MILITARY SITUATION ON SYRIAN FRONT, SYRIAN REASONS FOR OPPOSITION TO ENDING OF OIL EMBARGO, AND RECALLED SYRIA'S CONDITIONS FOR DISENGAGEMENT: NO DISENGAGEMENT WITHOUT SURE GUARANTEES FOR TOTAL EVACUATION OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. KHADDAM

FINISHED BY CALLING ON ALL ARAB STATES TO MAINTAIN  
SOLIDARITY AND REMAIN VIGILANT, ESPECIALLY CONCERNING  
REESTABLISHMENT OF PETROLEUM EMBARGO, WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED  
JUNE 1.H

B. ECONOMIC (CHAIRMAN BY NOUREDDINE FOURATI, CHIEF OF  
CABINET IN TUNISIAN MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY) COMMITTEE  
STUDIED (1) INTER-ARAB COOPERATION,2&(2) LOANS AND ASSISTANCE  
BY ARABS TO AFRICANS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR SUPPORT TO  
ARAB CAUSE, AND (3) ARAB-AFRICAN COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY  
CREATION OF ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA.  
IN THIS REGARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT COUNTRIES WHO  
HAVE NO YET SIGNED AGREEMENT CREATIMA THIS BANK DO SO  
(SAUDI ARABIA LATER BECAME SIXTEENTH COUNTRY TO SIGN  
AGREEMENT) AND LEFT CHOICE OF HEADQUARTERS FOR THIS BANK  
TODELEGATION CHIEFS.

C. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE DISCUSSED (1) ARAB AID  
TO PALESTINIAN STUDENTS IN ARABIC UNIVERSITIES, (2) FREE  
CIRCULATION OF WORKERS THROUGHOUT ARAB WORLD, (3) SYRIAN  
PROPOSAL TO CREAT CULTURAL CENTERS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES  
THAT HAVE BROKEN RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, AND (4) MEDICAL  
ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINIANS, REMOMENDING FUND OF \$1 MILLION  
BE CREATED FOR TREATMENT OF SEVERELY WOUNDED PALESTINIANS  
OUTSIDE OF ARAB COUNTRIES.

D. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE EXAMINED (1)  
FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION OF NEW MEMBERS SOMALIA AND MAURITANIA  
AND (2) QUESTION OF CERTAIN MEMBERS ARREARS.

E. LEGAL COMMITTEE -- DID NOT REPORT.

3. APART FROM FORMAL MEETINGS, THERE HAS ALSO BEEN LARGE  
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AMOUNT OF INFORMAL ACTIVITY. ON MARCH 26 PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA  
RECEIVED DELEGATES AND GAVE LUNCHEON IN THEIR HONOR, AND  
PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA INVITED DELEGATES TO DINNER ZT HILTON.  
PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA ALSO RECEIVED SEPARATELY FONMINS OF  
SAUDI ARABIA, SYRIA, MAURITANIA AND SOMALIA. RADIO TUNIS  
REPORTED AT NOON MARCH 27 THAT EGYPTIAN FONMIN  
E E E E E E E

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, COMMITTEES, PEACE TALKS, MEETING DELEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Film Number:** D740066-0838  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Subject:** ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE MARCH 26  
**TAGS:** PFOR, TS, SY, XF, XI, (FOURATI, NOUREDDINE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005